



## *URS Tier 4 Aggregate Risk Modeling*

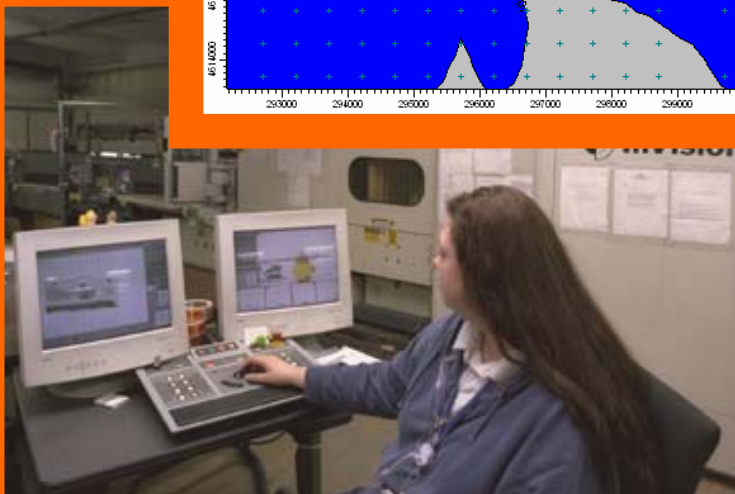
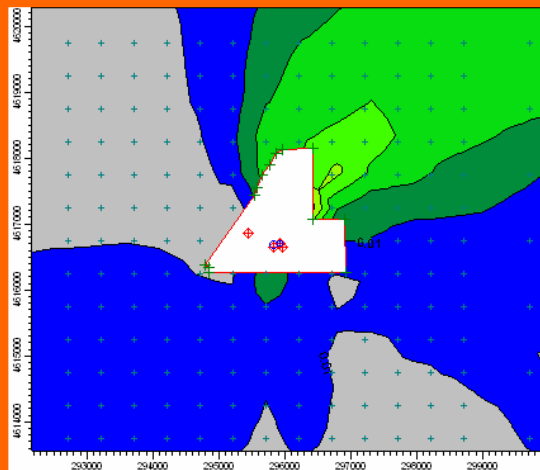
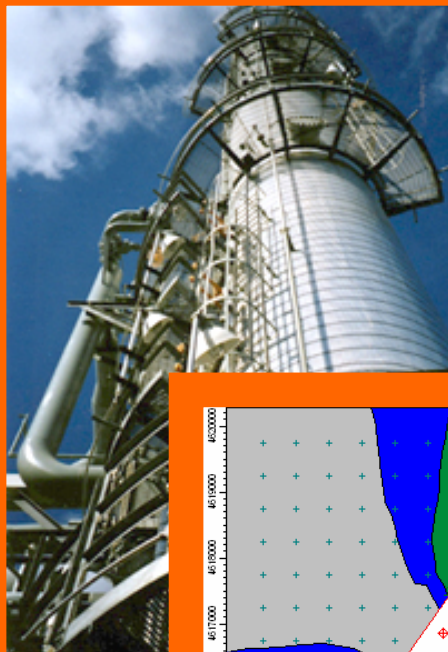
***"QUASAR":  
Quantitative URS Approach to STAR  
Aggregate Risk***

### **APCD Workshop #102**

***Presenter: Todd Royer***

***Thursday***

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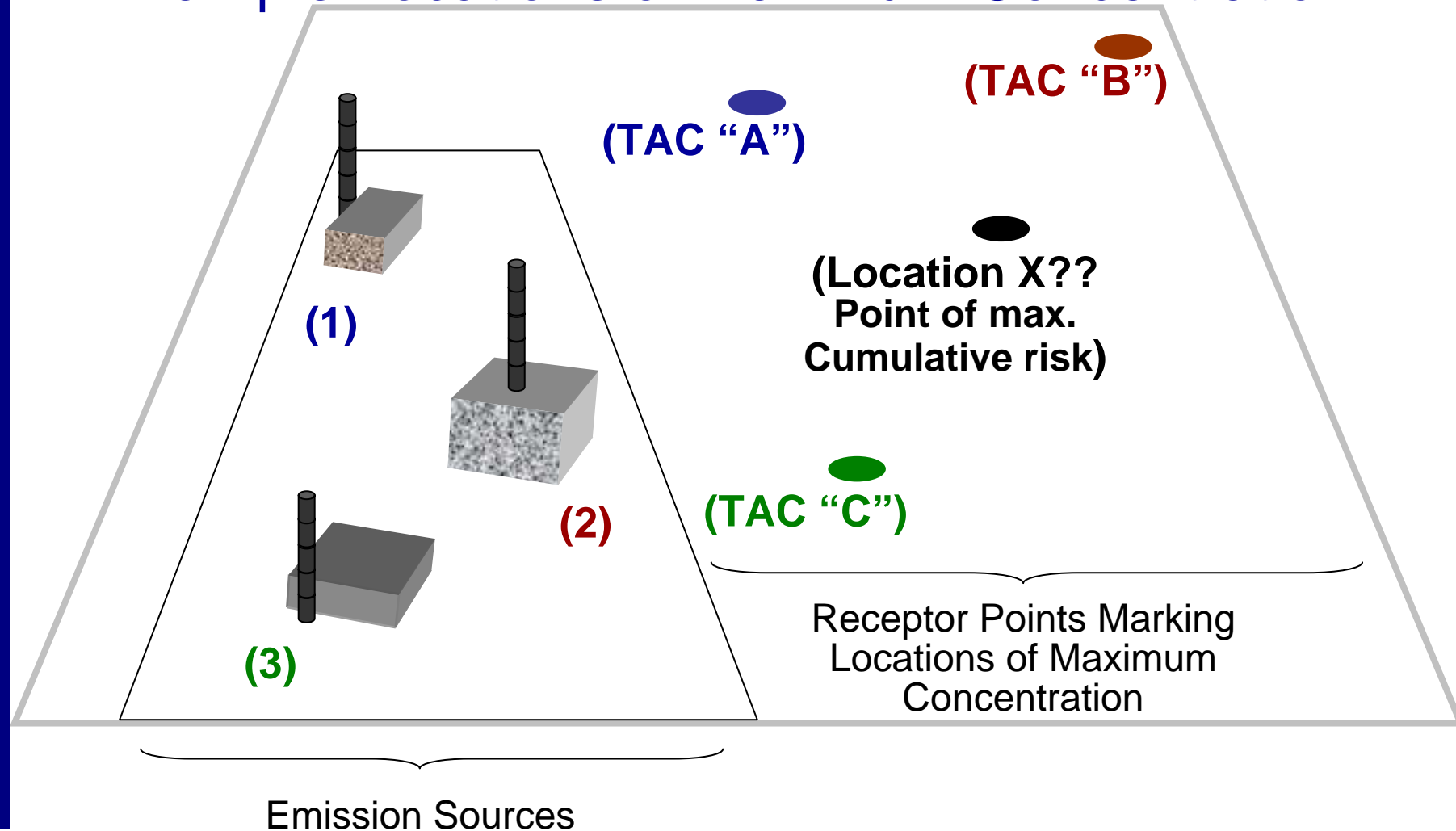
## ❑ The Aggregate Risk Modeling Challenge

- ❖ STAR Requires Demonstrating Compliance with Risk Goal for Cumulative Risk of Multiple TACs/Multiple Release Points
- ❖ Tier 4 Models Not Designed to Consider Multiple Pollutant/Stack/Risk Simultaneously

## ❑ Tier 4 (ISC/AERMOD) Model Capabilities/Characteristics

- ❖ Designed to model **one pollutant** (TAC) per “run”
- ❖ Single or Multiple Release Points
- ❖ Model Output = Ambient Concentration (**not Risk**)  
(Risk = ground level concentration divided by BAC)

# Example Locations of Maximum Concentration



## URS Approach to Rigorously Determine Cumulative Risk

### ❖ URS's "Risk-Adjusted" Approach: "QUASAR"

- Manipulate Model Input to let the Model Directly Determine the Maximum Cumulative Risk and its Location

*Step 1: For each emission point: Convert the emission rate of each TAC emitted to a "risk-adjusted" emissions rate (based on a standardized surrogate TAC).*

*Step 2: For each emission point: Sum the standardized "risk-adjusted" emission rates to yield a single, total stack "risk-adjusted" emission rate.*

*Step 3: Run Tier 4 model with "risk-adjusted" emissions rate from each stack.*

- You're done – Model output directly identifies Max. Cumulative Risk and Location
- Methodology is Easy to Do

## How and Why it Works! - Risk Modeling Theory



➤ Tier 4 Models are Just Mathematical Functions

- Model Output =  $f$ (emission rate, release height, ACFM, exh. temp., etc)

➤ For Each Release Point (& a given set of release parameters)

Model output is proportional to model input. For Emissions Rate:

Double the input (g/s emiss. rate) yields double the output (Conc.,  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )

- 2 g/s (Model Input)  $\xrightarrow{\text{Model}}$  1  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (Model Output)
- 4 g/s (Model Input)  $\xrightarrow{\text{Model}}$  2  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (Model Output)

➤ Conventionally - Risk Calculated Based on Model Output

- 4 g/s  $\xrightarrow{\text{Model}}$  2  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3 \div 2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3 (\text{BAC}_c) = 1.0$  (Risk,  $10^{-6}$ )

➤ Alternatively - Divide Input by  $\text{BAC}_c$  to Model Risk Directly

- 4 g/s  $\div 2 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3 (\text{BAC}_c) = 2 \text{ g/s} / \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  (Surr. Input)  $\xrightarrow{\text{Model}}$  1.0 (Risk,  $10^{-6}$ )

## QUASAR Modeling Approach – Multiple TACs (Single Stack)

TAC	Emission Rate (g/s)	BAC ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	"Risk-Adjusted" Rate <i>Model Input</i> ( $\text{g/s}/\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	Maximum Cumulative Risk <i>Model Output</i> ( $10^{-6}$ )
A	2.0	$\div 20$	= 0.1	
B	1.0	$\div 100$	= 0.01	
C	0.02	$\div 1.0$	= 0.02	
			0.13 <i>Model</i> $\rightarrow$	0.65

### ➤ Key Principal:

- Dividing an actual TAC emissions rate by its  $\text{BAC}_c$  yields a number equivalent to emissions rate of a "hypothetical" TAC with a  $\text{BAC}_c$  of  $1 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  with a risk equivalent to actual TAC emissions.

### ➤ URS Approach

- Effect is to Reduce Multiple TAC Emission Rates into a Single Surrogate "Risk-Adjusted" Emission Rate for each Source
- Surrogate Rate Takes into Account Relative Toxicity
- Model Output is **Maximum Cumulative Risk**

## Single Stack – Multiple TACs – Method Comparison

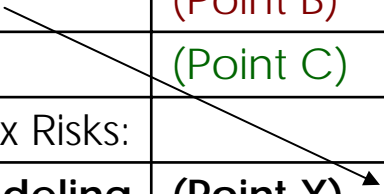
TAC	Emission Rate (g/s)	BAC ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	"QUASAR" "Risk-Adjusted" Rate <i>Model Input</i> ( $\text{g/s}/\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	Maximum Cumulative Risk <i>Model Output</i> ( $10^{-6}$ )
A	2.0	$\div 20$	= 0.1	
B	1.0	$\div 100$	= 0.01	
C	0.02	$\div 1.0$	= 0.02	
			Total = 0.13 <i>Model</i> →	0.65

### Conventional Method:

TAC	Emission Rate <i>Model Input</i> (g/s)	Max Concentration <i>Model Output</i> ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	BAC ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	Risk ( $10^{-6}$ )
A	2.0 <i>Model</i> →	10.0	$\div 20$	0.5
B	1.0 <i>Model</i> →	5.0	$\div 100$	0.05
C	0.02 <i>Model</i> →	0.1	$\div 1.0$	0.1
Conventionally Determined Maximum Cumulative Risk:				0.65

## Multiple Stack – “Risk-Adjusted” Emission Rate

Stack	“Risk-Adjusted” Rate <i>Model Input</i> (g/s/ $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ )	Risk <i>Model Output</i> ( $10^{-6}$ )
1	0.13	(Point A) 0.65
2	0.01	(Point B) 0.05
3	0.02	(Point C) 0.10
Sum of Individual Max Risks:		0.80
Maximum Cumulative Risk Modeling		(Point X) 0.68

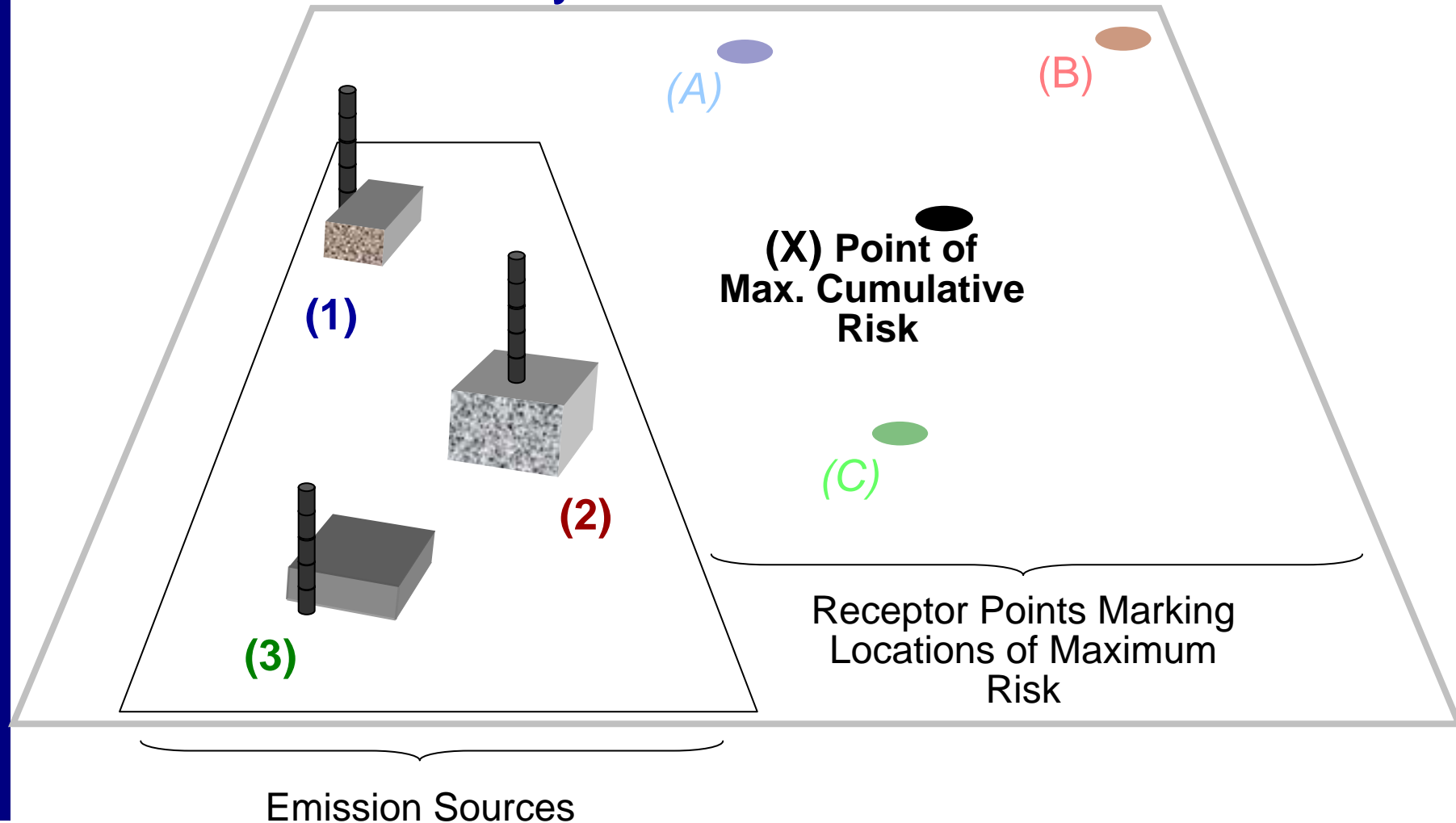


### ➤ URS’s “QUASAR” Approach:

- Calculate a Surrogate “Risk-Adjusted” Emission Rate Based on  $\text{BAC}_c$  for Each Release Point
- Use **Surrogate** “Risk-Adjusted” Emission Rate as the Single Pollutant in the Model
- Model Directly Yields:
  - ✓ Maximum Cumulative Risk Impact from all Release Points



# QUASAR Directly Determines Maximum Risk



## Summary

- ❑ STAR Requires Demonstrating Compliance with Risk Goal for Cumulative Risk of Multiple TACs/Multiple Release Points
- ❑ URS “Risk-Adjusted” Emissions Rate Approach:
  - Calculate a Surrogate “Risk-Adjusted” Emission Rate Based on  $BAC_c$  for Each Release Point
  - Use **Surrogate** “Risk-Adjusted” Emission Rate in a Single Pollutant Model
  - Model Directly Yields Maximum Cumulative Risk Impact from all Release Points and all TACs
- ❑ URS “QUASAR” Methodology:
  - *Minimal Data Manipulation Needed – Simple Spreadsheet*
  - *Model Output Yields Maximum Cumulative Risk Directly*

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